Regarding formation of Internal Committee and State Level High Power Committee for Planning and Utilization of Environment Compensation Fund

Government of Maharashtra
Department of Environment and Climate Change
Government Resolution No. : NGT-2022/ CR-27/ SEIAA
15th Floor , New Administration Building ,
Hutatma Rajguru Chowk , Madam Kama Marg ,
Mantralaya , Mumbai-400032
Date :-21st March, 2024.

Read:-
1. The Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 as amended till date
2. Environmental Impact Assessment Notification, 2006 as amended till date
3. Order dated 21.10.2022 passed by Hon. National Green Tribunal, Principal Bench, New Delhi in Original Application no. 976/2019 in Miscellaneous Application No. 74/2022

Introduction:-

Hon. National Green Tribunal, Principal Bench, New Delhi in Miscellaneous Application No. 74/2022 in Original Application No. 976/2019 vide Order dated 21.10.2022 directed the Chief Secretaries of all States/UTs to prepare and to implement updated Action Plans for Environmental Compensation Planning and Utilization Fund, to deposit the Environment compensation in a separate account under the Chief Secretary, to entrust the implementation of the utilization of such funds to a high-powered committee of three Additional Chief Secretaries. In view of above order of Hon'ble NGT Government takes following decision.

Government Decision :-

Pursuant to the order dated 21.10.2022 passed by Hon. National Green Tribunal, Principal Bench, New Delhi, a State Level High Power Committee is being constituted as under to prepare updated action plan for environmental compensation planning and utilization fund and effectively implement the same.

High Power Committee-

1	Principal Secretary, Environment and Climate Change, Government of Maharashtra	Chairman
2	Additional Chief Secretary/Principal Secretary, Urban Development Division-1, Government of Maharashtra	Member
3	Additional Chief Secretary/Principal Secretary, Urban Development Division-2, Government of Maharashtra	Member
4	Principal Secretary, Water Supply and Sanitation Department, Government of Maharashtra	Member
5	Principal Secretary, Rural Development Department, Government of Maharashtra	Member
6	Principal Secretary, Industries Department, Government of Maharashtra	Member
7	Member Secretary, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board	Member
8	Director, Environment and Climate Change, Government of Maharashtra	Member Secretary

The Terms of reference of the said State Level High Power Committee will be as follows.
1) To apply the principle of environmental compensation to the industries/organizations not complying with the environmental standards and any directives related thereto. To deposit the fund in a separate bank account. Similarly, to create a guiding system for spending the said amount for environmental protection .
2) To ensure that, Environmental Damage Compensation Fund Plans are consistent with the State/District Environmental Plans as per order dated 26.09.2019.
3) Plans and progress in execution to be placed on websites of the States/UTs after every six months
4) To ensure that, part of funds to be provided for environment awareness through eco clubs in all Schools and Colleges up to grassroots levels in the State through the Education Department.
5) Committee has a liberty to coordinate with the Law and Justice Department in accordance with some legal points in this regard.
6) The committee will meet at least once in three months.

Further as per order dated 21.10.2022 passed by Hon. National Green Tribunal, Principal Bench, New Delhi, an Internal Committee is being constituted to assist the State Level High Power Committee.

Internal Committee-

1	Mr. B. C. Khatua, IAS. (Retd)	Chairman
2	Representative of Central Pollution Control Board	Member
3	Representative of Indian Institute of Technology	Member
4	National Environmental Engineering Research Institute	Member
5	Veermata Jijabai Institute of Technology	Member
6	Technical Head, Legal Officer 1 & 2, Maharashtra Pollution Control Board	Member
7	Director, Environment and Climate Change, Government of Maharashtra	Member
8	3 Technical Expertise/ representatives of Institutions	Member
9	Joint Director (Air Pollution)	Member Secretary

The Terms of Reference of the said Internal Committee will be as follows.

1) To prepare plans for utilization of Environmental Damage Compensation Funds and recommend them to the State Level High Power Committee .
2) The following schemes have been identified for utilization of Environmental damage Compensation funds which may be considered:
    a) Compliance with environmental standards and relevant directives for verification Industrial Inspection .
    b) Establishment of continuous Water and Air Quality Monitoring Centers to strengthen the existing monitoring network .
    c) Preparation of comprehensive industry documents on industrial sectors/clean technologies.
    d) Investigation of environmental damage , preparation of DPR.
    e) Remediation of contaminated areas .
    f) Capacity building of Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) / SPCBs / PCCs

The said Government Resolution of the Government of Maharashtra www.maharashtra.gov.in has been made available on this website and its reference number is 202403221423085904 This order is being authenticated with digital signature.

By order and in the name of the Governor of Maharashtra.

VIJAY SUDHAKAR PATIL

Digitally signed by VIJAY SUDHAKAR PATIL
DN: c=IN, o=GOVERNMENT OF MAHARASHTRA, ou=ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE DEPARTMENT,
2.5.4.20=7597374b14a075268ebb99ffc97bf93be9da2a38eddfc7bc45fd1898efb7e0ee, postalCode=400032, st=Maharashtra, serialNumber=DB634C989CC341AA7A98816A45B9A1B45A57333D0362B80C797A318B7923F098, cn=VIJAY SUDHAKAR PATIL
Date: 2024.03.22 14:32:59 +05'30'

(Vijay S. Patil)
Section Officer, Govt of Maharashtra

Copy forwarded to:

1) Hon. Principal Secretary to Chief Minister, Mantralaya, Mumbai-32
2) Hon. Principal Secretary to Dy.Chief Minister, Mantralaya, Mumbai-32
3) Hon. Chief Secretary, Government of Maharashtra, Mantralaya, Mumbai-32
4) Principal Secretary , Urban Development Department -1 , Mantralaya , Mumbai-32
5) Principal Secretary , Urban Development Department -2 , Mantralaya , Mumbai-32
6) ACS , Revenue and Forests Department, Mantralaya , Mumbai-32
7) Principal Secretary,Env. and Climate Change Department , Mantralaya , Mumbai-32
8) Principal Secretary, Water Supply and Sanitation Department, Mantralaya , Mumbai-32
9) Principal Secretary, Rural Development Department, Mantralaya , Mumbai-32
10) Principal Secretary, Industries Department, Mantralaya , Mumbai-32
11) Member Secretary, Maharashtra Pollution control Board, Mumbai.
12) Director, Environment and Climate Change, Mantralaya , Mumbai-32
13) Joint Director (Air Pollution Control), Maharashtra Pollution Control Board, Mumbai.
14) Legal Officer 1 & 2, Maharashtra Pollution control Board, Mumbai.
15) Mr. B. C. Khatua, IAS. (Retd)
16) Representative of Central Pollution Control Board
17) Representative of Indian Institute of Technology
18) National Environmental Engineering Research Institute
19) Veermata Jijabai Institute of Technology